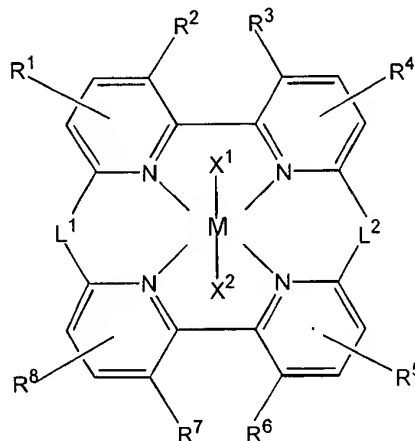


In the claims:

Claims 17-27 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-16 have been reiterated as follows:

1. (Reiterated) A metal complex of the following formula:



wherein

each of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , and R^8 , independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxyl, hydroxylalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, amino, aminoalkyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkylcarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl, or heteroaralkyl; each of R^2 and R^3 , and R^6 and R^7 , independently, optionally joining together to form a cyclic moiety fused with the two pyridyl rings to which R^2 and R^3 , or R^6 and R^7 are bonded; the cyclic moiety, if present, optionally being substituted with alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxyl, hydroxylalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, amino, aminoalkyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkylcarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl, or heteroaralkyl;

each of L^1 and L^2 , independently, is $-C(R^a)(R^b)-$, $-O-$, $-S-$, or $-N(R^c)-$; each of R^a , R^b , and R^c , independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or heteroaralkyl;

M is a Co, Ni, Ru, Rh, Mn, Os, Ag, Cr, Zn, Cd, Hg, Re, Ir, Pt, or Pd ion; and

each of X^1 and X^2 , independently, is a labile ligand;

or a salt thereof.

2. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 1, wherein each of R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , and R^8 , independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, or alkoxy.

3. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 1, wherein each of R^2 and R^3 , and R^6 and R^7 , independently, join together to form a cyclic moiety; the cyclic moiety being benzene.

4. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 3, wherein the cyclic moiety is unsubstituted.

5. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 4, wherein each of R^1 , R^4 , R^5 , and R^8 , independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, or alkoxy.

6. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 5, wherein each of R^1 , R^4 , R^5 , and R^8 , independently, is hydrogen.

7. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 6, wherein each of L^1 and L^2 , independently, is $-N(R^c)-$ where R^c is hydrogen.

8. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 7, wherein M is Co.

9. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 8, wherein X^1 and X^2 , independently, is trifluoroacetate.

10. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 9, wherein said complex is cobalt(II) (hexaazacyclophane) (trifluoroacetate).

11. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 1, wherein each of L^1 and L^2 , independently, is $-S-$ or $-N(R^c)-$.

12. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 11, wherein each of L^1 and L^2 , independently, is $-N(R^c)-$ where R^c is hydrogen.

13. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 1, wherein M is Co, Ru, or Mn.

14. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 13, wherein M is Co.

15. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 1, wherein X^1 and X^2 , independently, is H_2O , Cl, trifluoroacetate, or pyridine.

16. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 15, wherein X^1 and X^2 , independently, is trifluoroacetate.

20250106 10:03:00